

APPROVED: Meeting No. 28-83

ATTEST:

Helen M. Heneghan

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
MEETING NO. 26-83

July 25, 1983

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in general session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland at Vinson Street, Rockville Maryland, on Monday, July 25, 1983, at 8:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor John R. Freeland

Councilman Steve Abrams

Councilwoman Viola Hovsepian

Councilman John Tyner, II

ABSENT

Councilman Douglas Duncan
(on sick leave)

The Mayor in the Chair.

In attendance: City Manager Larry Blick; City Clerk Helen Heneghan; City Attorney Paul Glasgow.

Re: City Manager's Report

Mr. Blick reported the following:

1. The North Washington Street reconstruction is progressing. The curb is completed on the west side of the street and the PEPCO conduits are 70% complete.
2. The requested handicapped ramps have been completed at Lynch St. and Carr Avenue, Nelson Street and Martins Lane and Bradford and Mannakee Streets.
3. July 16 through the 21 was a record high 7-day period for water production. It averaged 84.6% of planned capacity.
4. The new traffic signal at Seven Locks and Ritchie Parkway has been in operation now for 2 weeks. PEPCO will be adding a street light at the intersection, but work will not be done until November.
5. Six areas are being evaluated as candidates for speed humps. They are South Adams Street, Lincoln Avenue between Stonestreet and Horner's Lane, Seth Place between Park and Charles, Julian Place between Brice and Hardy, Atlantic Avenue between Wainwright and Crawford and Stratton Drive between Milboro and Lancashire.
6. Ray Evans, Redgate Golf Course Superintendent has completed the requirements to earn the title of "Certified Golf Course Superintendent". A difficult

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test and stringent requirements are involved in this attainment.

Re: Presentation of Awards to
Citizens for Participation
in Neighborhood Watch
Program

Chief Stout and Officer Vic Grasso assisted Mayor Freeland in the presentation of the awards to the citizens who have worked with the police force in making this program successful. The recipients were as follows:

Burgundy Knolls Association - Fran Mulhall

College Gardens Watch - Kathryn T. Vengazo, Margaret E. Reilly, Jack Reilly

Lincoln Avenue Watch - Albert A. Jackson, Ruth Brown

North Farm Civic Association - William Mark Allen, Roy Dickstein

Potomac Woods Watch - William Borman, Lois Borman

Sunrise Drive Watch - Joy Ammerman, Thomasine Ilyas Alvarez

Twinbrook Civic Association - Rusty Truesdale, James Torrenzano, John Huszai,
William F. Surgi, Carol T. Cohen, Sally Drummond,
Henry Bockman, Betty Burns, Merle Crock, John Rys.
Nell Rys

Woodley Gardens West-End Association - Charles Osborne

Mayor Freeland congratulated these people on their fine work and encouraged them to continue in this most necessary of citizen obligations. Mayor Freeland specifically requested that Chief Stout present a citation from the Department to Officer Grasso for the work he has done in making this program successful.

Re: Citizen's Forum

The Mayor opened the meeting to those citizens who wished to address the Mayor and Council.

1. Mark Allen of North Farm. Mr. Allen said he has not heard back from the City since June 17 when the City Manager made an inspection of the premises. The City Manager explained that he has written to BOCA and sent the information in order for them to perform the calculations and list the deficiencies. BOCA will give an objective review of the situation. When all the information is received, he will share it immediately with the North Farm Association.

2. James Torrenzano, 13001 Atlantic Avenue. Mr. Torrenzano told the Mayor and Council that there is a speeding problem on Atlantic Avenue of cut throughs from Veirs Mill Road. The opening of Metro will certainly aggravate the situation. With cars parked on both sides, numerous accidents occur. It would seem best to have the street made one way. The City Manager explained

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that area is now being studied for speed humps. In the meantime, the police dept. will step up its enforcement. Councilman Tyner pointed out the difficulties that can follow when just one street is made one way.

There being no other citizen wishing to be heard, the Mayor closed the citizens' forum portion of the meeting.

Re: Report by Advisory
Commission on Public
Education on their find-
ings on a Proposal to Change
School Boundaries for
Orchard Ridge Residents

Elaine Goldberg, Chairman of the Advisory Commission, addressed the Mayor and Council. She told the Council that the task force on Orchard Ridge and the Advisory Commission have evaluated the concerns expressed by all of the parties. In so doing, the Commission attempted to assess the impact of various alternatives on the City as a whole. The Commission recognizes that several schools in the City may face serious problems over the next several years. However, they do not feel the changed boundaries of Orchard Ridge and/or the Freeman property will solve any of those problems and they may in fact exaggerate some of those problems. For that reason, the Commission does not recommend any changes in the school boundaries at the present time.

Councilman Tyner said some people might feel the City is abandoning the concept of children walking to their neighborhood schools. Mrs. Goldberg agreed that this is a valid concern and one that was weighed in coming to a decision. She noted that the overriding concern is the unbalance of the Richard Montgomery cluster. Councilman Abrams said he can appreciate the concern for Richard Montgomery but he has difficulty in making that paramount at the elementary level. It would seem an imposition is made on the youngest members of the school user group. It would seem better to focus on making Richard Montgomery more attractive than to impose it on people. Councilwoman Hovsepian noted that although children walking to school is ideal, busing north of Ritchie Parkway would probably be the case at any rate since there is heavy traffic on the roads surrounding the subdivision. The Council and Mrs. Goldberg discussed this further. Mayor Freeland asked that prior to the Board's September hearing on the 15-year Plan, the Mayor and Council take action on the recommendations of the Commission as an agenda item. He noted his appreciation of the efforts of the task force and the

Commission and said that the Commission seems to be working at all times to assure a high quality education for all children. Councilman Tyner asked if the Commission will discuss again one of the alternatives they discussed prior which is splitting the subdivisions between Fallsmead and Ritchie Parkway schools. Mayor Freeland thanked them for coming.

Re: Briefing on Great Seneca Highway and related State and County Highway Projects in North Rockville by John J. Clark, Director of Transportation Planning, Montgomery County

John Clark and Mr. Edward Gonzalez briefed the Council on the Great Seneca Highway a 7 to 7.5 mile stretch of land in the northern part of the County and to the alternative alignments with the use of maps. At the same time he pointed out other roads that will be constructed or will be widened including the I-370 road which will connect at Shady Grove with Metro and will link up with I-270. The Council and the County representative discussed the road concept at length and studied all of the maps and alignments. Mayor Freeland thanked the County for coming this evening and bringing the City up-to-date. He also thanked Councilman Potter of Montgomery County for being present this evening for the briefing.

Re: Adoption of Ordinance:
To Require the Licensing of
Burglar Alarms in Non-
Residential Property

Ordinance No. 28-83

On motion of Councilman Tyner, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, the ordinance was amended to reflect the changes as suggested by the City Attorney's office to Sections 1-203(b), 2-102(a)(b), & 2-202.

On motion of Councilwoman Hovsepian, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, Ordinance No. 28-83, the full text of which can be found in Ordinance Book No. 11 of the Mayor and Council, requiring the licensing of burglar alarms in non-residential property was adopted by the Council, as amended.

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Re: Adoption of Ordinance:
To grant Map Amendment
Application, M-33-83,
Dawson Farmhouse Historic
District

Ordinance No. 29-83

On motion of Councilman Tyner, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, the following wording was placed in the ordinance as an amendment: "Whereas, the Mayor and Council, recognizing the historical character of the entire Dawson Farm Park, hereby affirms its intent to keep the strip of land between the 1912 main house and 1884 farmhouse in a natural state, and further expresses its intent that all construction within the entire Park be sympathetic to the historic character of the farmhouses, and that no construction or alterations within Dawson Farm Park take place without first receiving comments and recommendations from the Historic District Commission; and".

On motion of Councilman Tyner, duly seconded and passed by the unanimous vote of all present, Ordinance No. 29-83, the full text of which can be found in Ordinance Book No. 11 of the Mayor and Council, granting Map Amendment Application, M-33-83, was adopted by the Mayor and Council, as amended.

Re: Introduction of Ordinance:
To Levy Special Assessments
for Monroe/Fleet Street water-
main project.

On motion of Councilman Abrams, there was introduced upon the table an ordinance levying special assessments for Monroe/Fleet Street watermain project, said ordinance to lay over at least one week before final action is taken.

Re: Introduction of Ordinance:
To Levy Special Assessments
for Monroe/Fleet Street
paving project.

On motion of Councilman Abrams, there was introduced upon the table an ordinance levying special assessments for Monroe/Fleet Street paving project, said ordinance to lay over at least one week before final action is taken.

Re: Discussion of City's response
to the proposed Gaithersburg
and Vicinity Master Plan
Amendment and MXPD zoning

The letter submitted to the Council for consideration is to the Honorable David Scull and members of the Montgomery County Council and concerns zoning Text Amendment No. 83006MXPD. The letter requests that the public hearing record and any subsequent decision concerning this amendment be held in abeyance pending an opportunity for the Cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg to present their concerns. The Council approved the letter and asked that copies be sent to the County Council.

Re: Correspondence

The Mayor and Council noted the following items of correspondence:

1. David Brown, re Potomac Woods Park picnics
2. G.D. Grave, re complaint about license inspection process
3. C.L. Short, thank you
4. T.W. McKeon, re senior bus service

Councilman Abrams said this seems to be a very bad problem. The City Manager explained what has been done to reinstitute the bus. Councilman Abrams suggested that an article be placed in the Newsletter outlining this.

5. Letters complimenting fireworks

Councilwoman Hovsepian expressed her regret that she missed the fireworks' celebrations this year since it seemed to be the most outstanding ever. Mayor Freeland agreed with this statement.

6. Delegate Boergers, congratulations
7. J.A. Mazzetta, HRC, re tenants handbook

Councilwoman Hovsepian said she is quite happy to see this handbook being completed.

8. Leah Barnett, re commendation of City employee
9. State Ethics Commission, re ordinance review

Councilman Tyner asked the City Manager what the procedure is for this. The City Attorney said that his department has started the review and the matter will come before the Council for action.

Re: Information Items

1. Public Works Project status report
2. Information on Lincoln Park Community Day
3. Memo re RHA Handbook
4. Recreation update

5. Rockville Youth Employment Program breakdown
6. Letter re Montgomery College Use Permit
7. SHA Transportation Project Status Report
8. CAO letter to CM re CIP
9. City Manager's letter to Del. Forehand re State money request
10. Memo re staff studies
11. Letter from General Business Service, Inc., re bus rental
12. Article from the New Settlers Guide
13. Response to citizen complaint
14. Informative memo from Director of Planning re communications with Civic Association.

Councilman Tyner complimented Mr. Davis for putting this material together.

15. Letter from Director of Community Resources re use at Senior Center

Re: Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Tyner, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, the Minutes of Meeting No. 23-83, were approved as written.

On motion of Councilman Tyner, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, the Minutes of Meeting No. 24-83, were approved as amended.

Re: Executive Session

On motion of Councilman Tyner, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, the meeting was closed for discussion with legal counsel.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council in executive session, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m. to convene again in work session on Monday, August 1, 1983, at 8:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor.